

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

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R 130810Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7017

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THE FOLLOWING TEL SROM SURABAYA SENT ACTION JAKARTA DTD 10
MAR IS RPTD:

QUOTE

SURABAYA 0170

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: TRADE MISSION CALL ON GOVERNOR NOER

FOR DCM

1. GUS ABERLE, JANICE PHILBRICK AND EIGHT MEMBERS OF
THE SUGAR MACHINERY TAKS FORCE CALLED WITH ME ON
GOVERNOR NOER SATURDAY MORNING, AND BRIEFED HIM ON
THE SEMINAR/CATALOG SHOW. FOLLOWING ARE MAIN POINTS
FROM THE CALL.

2. THE GOVERNOR EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION AT THE
SUCCESS OF THE SHOW, AND SAID HE HOPED IT WOULD LEAD
TO CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS
AND INDONESIAN SUGAR INDUSTRY OFFICIALS. HE SAID HE HAD
DISCUSSED SUGAR INDUSTRY QUESTIONS WITH PRESIDENT
SUHARTO DURING THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE, AND THE
PRESIDENT HAD EMPHASIZED HIS DESIRE TO PROMOTE
FOREIGN ACTIVITY IN THIS FIELD. THE PRESIDENT HAD
ASKED GOVERNOR NOER TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THREE

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MINISTERS ON THE SUGAR-CANE HARVEST-SHARING SYSTEM NOW

BEING ESTABLISHED IN EAST JAVA, WITH A VIEW TOWARD EXTENDING IT TO CENTRAL JAVA AS WELL. HE WILL GO TO JAKARTA IN TWO WEEKS FOR THIS PURPOSE. NOER SAID THE PRESIDENT HAD ALSO DISCUSSED THE NEED TO COMBINE TECHNOLOGY WITH INTENSIFICATION OF LABOR IN THE SUGAR INDUSTRY. "TOTAL MECHANIZATION IS IMPOSSIBLE ---EACH MILL MUST EMPLOY AT LEAST 7,000 WORKERS," THE GOVERNOR SAID. THIS CAN BE DONE BECAUSE LABOR IS CHEAP IN JAVA, BUT IT WILL REQUIRE A "SPECIALAPPROACH."

3. GOVERNOR NOER EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE RAPID PROCESSING OF AN IV GRANT FOR BUPATI SOEDARSONO AND SAID TI WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO HIM THAT SOEDARSONO GO AT THIS TIME. HE ASKED ME TO PASS ON HIS GRATITUDE TO AMBASSADOR NEWSOM.

4. THE GOVERNOR REMARKED THAT MINISTER MACHMUD WAS PLEASED WITH THEECONOMIC PROGRESS WITNESSED DURING HIS THREE-DAY TRIP TO MADURA, BUT HAD EMPAHSIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF POLITICKING IN PREPARATION FORTHE 1977 ELECTIONS. NOER SIAD THAT "MY ISLAND IS BELOW 50 PERCENT FOR GOLKAR. IT IS VERY POOR AND THE PEOPLE ARE FANATICAL MOSLEMS." SPECIAL ATTENTION IS TO BE PAID TO MADURA IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

5. ALSO ON SATURDAY, WE LEARNED THAT BERNARD RAAT, THE TURBODYNE (STUDEBAKER-WORTHINGTON) REPRESENTATIVE SIGNED A CONTRACT FRIDAY NIGHT FOR \$2.5 MILLION WORTH OF SUGAR MACHINERY.ABERLE ALSO BELIEVES THAT FULTON ASSOCIATES HAS A GOOD SHOT AT THE CONTRACT FOR THE NEW WIRONTONO MILL IN SOUTH MALANG, A \$20 MILLION JOB. HE IS PROCEEDING TO SINGAPORE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROJECT. IASKED HIM TO CALL ON AMBASSADOR NEWSOM AND/OR DON TOUSSAINT IN JAKARTA, AND HE PROMISED TO DO SO. THE BUSINESS GROUP SEEMED GENUINELY ELATED AT THE SUCCESS OF THE TRAVE EVENT. WE WILL BE SUMITTING A SHORT CABLE ON THIS SUBJECT IN THENEXT FEW DAYS, AND WILL PREPARE THE USUAL AFTER-SHOW REPORT. HOWLAND UNQUOTE.

NEWSOM

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